

Coastal Georgia and Savannah-Upper Ogeechee Joint Council Regional Water Planning Meeting

July 12, 2022



**GEORGIA
WATER PLANNING**

waterplanning.georgia.gov

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Dr. Christopher Curtis, Georgia Southern University



Joint Council Business

Council Chairs

Approve Draft Council Meeting Agenda



Georgia's State Water Plan

Coastal Georgia and Savannah-Upper Ogeechee
Joint Regional Water Council Meeting
Draft Agenda – July 12, 2022

10:00 am

Georgia Southern Armstrong Center
13040 Abercorn St, Savannah, GA 31419.

[Click here to join the meeting virtually](#)

- 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. Council Registration/Guest Sign In
- 10:00 – 10:10 a.m. Welcome and Opening Remarks – *Dr. Christopher Curtis, Georgia Southern University*
- 10:10 – 10:15 a.m. Joint Council Business – *Coastal Georgia and Savannah-Upper Ogeechee Council Chairs*
- Approve today's draft meeting agenda
- 10:15 – 10:25 a.m. GA EPD Updates
- Updates to Regional Water Planning Schedule – *Ashley Reid, CDM Smith*
 - Seed Grant Updates – *Haydn Blaize, Georgia EPD*
- 10:25 – 10:50 a.m. SEED Grant Project Overview: Know Your River, *Tonya Bonitatibus, Savannah Riverkeeper*

10 MINUTE BREAK

- 11:00 – 11:30 a.m. Updates on Water Management in the Savannah River Basin – *Kathryn Feingold, USACE*
- 11:30 a.m. – 12 Noon Overview of USACE Study Authorities – *Brian Choate, USACE*

30 MINUTE BREAK FOR LUNCH

AFTER LUNCH – WE WILL RESUME WITH INDIVIDUAL COUNCIL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Coastal Georgia

- 12:30 - 12:35pm Council Business – Approval of February 24, 2022, Meeting Summary – *Benjy Thompson, CG Chair*
- 12:35 – 1:35 p.m. Coastal Georgia Groundwater Resource Assessment – *Christine Youdy, Georgia EPD*
- 1:35 – 1:45p.m. Public Comments/Local Elected Official Comments
- 1:45 – 2:00 p.m. Wrap up/Closing

To attend **Savannah-Upper Ogeechee** session,

[click here to join the meeting](#) or dial (844) 566-5330, Conference ID: 114 343 276#

Upper Ogeechee

- 9pm Council Business – Approval of March 8, 2022, Meeting Summary – *Bruce Azevedo, SUO Chair*
- 9pm. Surface Water Resource Assessment Results – *Wei Zeng, Georgia EPD*
- Incorporation of new performance metrics – *Ashley Reid/Laura Hartt*
- 9pm. Public Comments/Local Elected Official Comments
- 9pm. Wrap up/Closing

waterplanning.georgia.gov



GEORGIA
WATER PLANNING

An aerial photograph of a swampy landscape with a network of waterways and dense forest. The image is in grayscale, with the text overlaid in white. The water reflects the sky, and the trees are dark and dense. In the lower right, some small buildings and a road are visible.

Georgia EPD Updates



Regional Water Planning Schedule Update

Ashley Reid, CDM Smith

Regional Water Planning Overview & Schedule

Regional Water Plan Review and Revision Schedule

Meeting One
4th Quarter 2021

Meeting Two
1st Quarter 2022

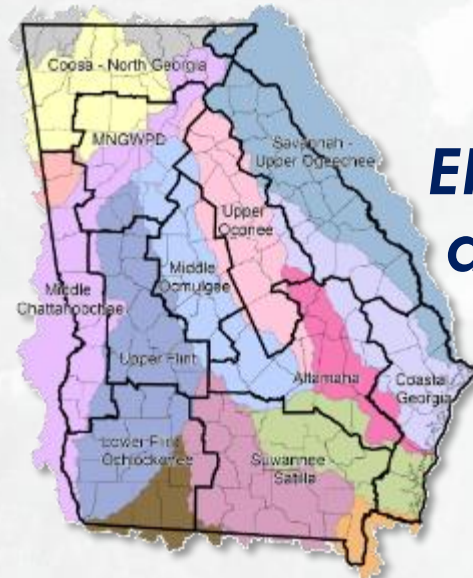
Meeting Three
2nd Quarter 2022

Meeting Four
3rd Quarter 2022

Meeting Five
4th Quarter 2022

Meeting Six
1st Quarter 2023
Draft Plan

Meeting Seven
(Final)
2nd Quarter 2023
Incorporate
Comments



***EPD targeted date of
adoption of revised
Regional Water Plan by
June 2023***

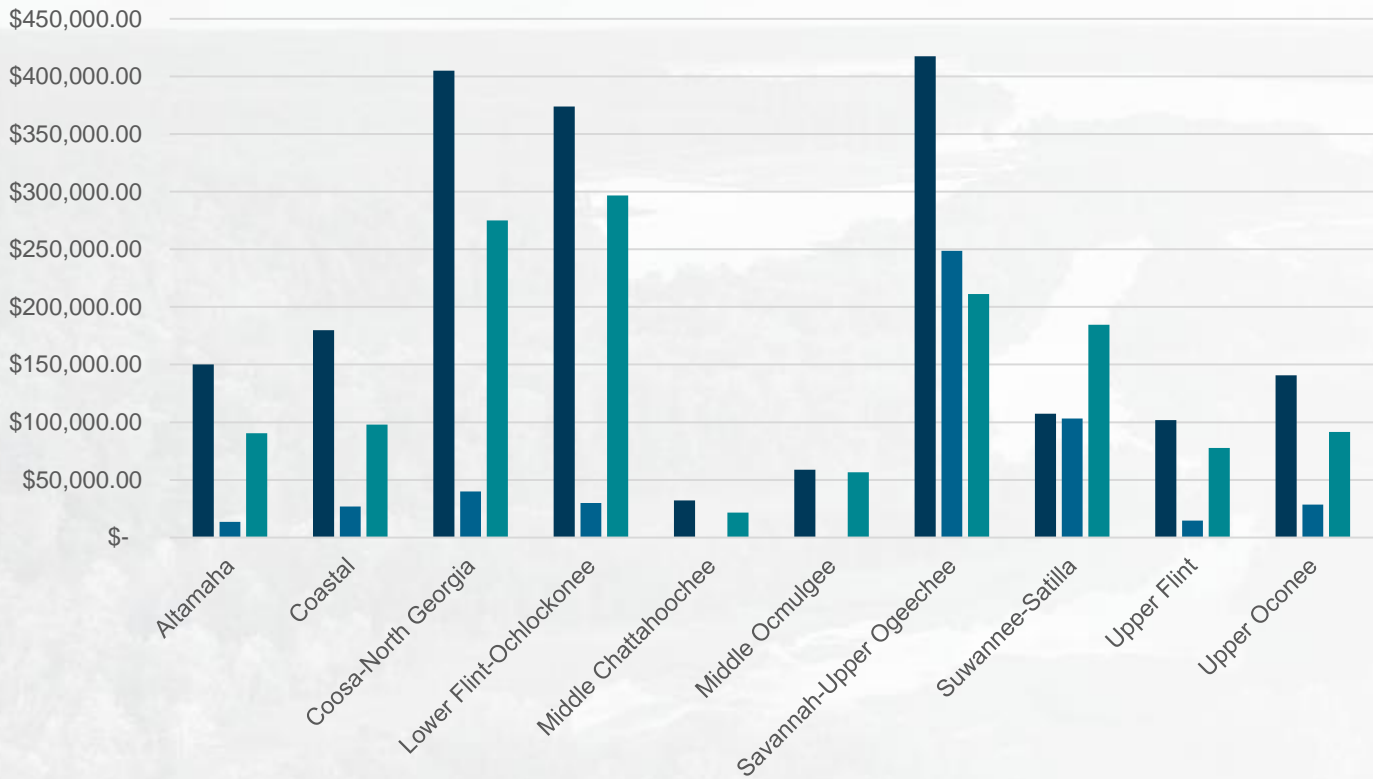
An aerial photograph of a wetland area, showing a network of water channels and dense forest. The image is in grayscale, with the text overlaid in white. The background shows a vast expanse of water and trees, with some buildings visible in the lower right corner.

Seed Grant Updates

Haydn Blaize, GA EPD

RWP Seed Grant Funding Totals

RWP Seed Grant Funds By Council
SFY2014-SFY2022



Savannah-Upper Ogeechee Council Funding Totals

Grant Funds: \$417,570
Cash Match: \$248,798
In-Kind Match: \$211,244

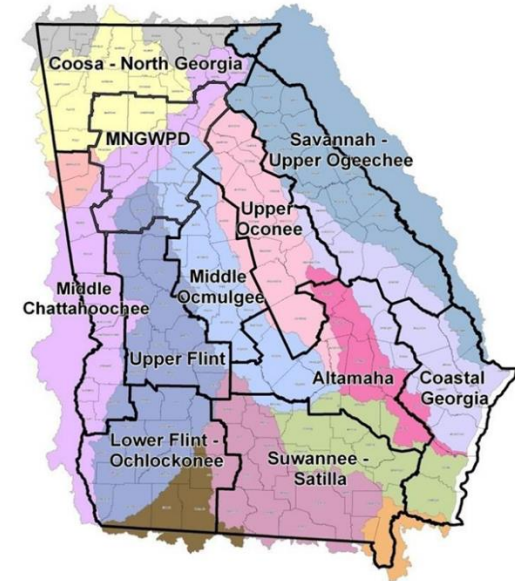
Coastal Council Funding Totals

Grant Funds: \$179,882
Cash Match: \$26,790
In-Kind Match: \$97,901



SFY2023 RWP SEED GRANT

- Up to \$75,000 per project to Implement Regional Water Plans
- Cost-Share: 60% state funds/40% local match (10% of project total as cash)
- Letter of Support from Water Council
- Accepting applications for SFY2023 until **October 31**
- NEW for SFY2023: Must apply using online Grant Application Portal



<https://epd.georgia.gov/outreach/grants/regional-water-plan-seed-grant-funds>

An aerial photograph of a river meandering through a vast, dense forest. The river is dark and reflects the sky, while the surrounding trees are a mix of dark greens and browns. The overall tone is somber due to the dark overlay.

SEED Grant Project Overview: Know Your River

Tonya Bonitatibus, Savannah Riverkeeper

An aerial photograph of a swampy landscape with a network of waterways and dense forest. The image is in grayscale, with a dark, overcast sky. The text "10 MINUTE BREAK" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font.

10 MINUTE BREAK

An aerial photograph of a river basin, likely the Savannah River Basin, showing a winding river through a dense forest. Some buildings and cleared areas are visible on the right side of the river. The image is in grayscale with a dark overlay.

Water Management in the Savannah River Basin

Kathryn Feingold, USACE



Overview of USACE Study Authorities

Brian Choate, USACE

30 MINUTE LUNCH BREAK

Following Lunch, there will be individual council breakout sessions.

For the Coastal GA Session:

Please remain in the Armstrong Center Ballroom and use same virtual meeting login information

For the Savannah-Upper Ogeechee Session:

Please meet in Armstrong Center Classroom #109 and see *Meeting Chat* for virtual login information

Coastal Georgia Regional Water Planning Council

Breakout Session

July 12, 2022



**GEORGIA
WATER PLANNING**

waterplanning.georgia.gov



Council Business

Benjy Thompson, Coastal Georgia Chair

Council Business

- Approval of February 24, 2022, Council Meeting Summary

An aerial photograph of a wetland area, showing a network of water channels and dense forest. The image is in grayscale, with a blue gradient overlay at the bottom.

Groundwater Resource Assessment

Christine Voudy, Georgia EPD

An aerial photograph of a wetland area, featuring a winding waterway that meanders through a dense forest. The water reflects the sky, and the surrounding land is covered in thick trees. In the lower right, some small buildings and a parking lot are visible, suggesting a nearby developed area. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Public and Local Elected Official Comments



Thank You

Need More Information?

woodsh@cdmsmith.com

reid.jackson@dnr.ga.gov